

MINUTES

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

February 3, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Conference Room at FREDericksburg Regional Transit

Members in Attendance: Jan Erkert, Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce
Angeline Pitts, Caroline County
Dr. Roy Weinstock, Community Representative

Others Present : Marilyn Graves, Administrative Assistant/FRED
Wendy Kimball, Assistant Director of Public Transit/FRED
Arnold Levine, Manager of Policy, Planning and Compliance
Jane Wills, Regional Mobility Coordinator
Milbrey Heard, Urban Transportation Consultant, Connectics Transportation Group
Sharon Hollis, Urban Transportation Consultant, Connectics Transportation Group

Members Absent : Lawrence A. Davies, City of Fredericksburg
Debe Fults, disAbility Resource Center
Jack Green, King George County
Deneal Helms, The Free Lance-Star
Edd Houck, Mary Washington Hospital
John Moen, WFLS
Richard Pearce, University of Mary Washington
Fred Sisk, Citizen Representative
Lloyd Robinson, Alternate/George Washington Regional Commission
Diana Utz, George Washington Regional Commission
Rodney White, Spotsylvania County

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Weinstock at 8:45 am on February 3, 2010, in the conference room at the FREDericksburg Regional Transit facility (a/k/a The Lawrence A. Davies Transit Center), 1400 Jefferson Davis Highway, Fredericksburg, VA.

A vote could not be taken on approval of the minutes from the November 4, 2009, meeting because there was not a quorum.

A Transit Development Plan is being prepared by Connectics Transportation Group through funding by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT); this is an

update of our 2006 Plan and is now a requirement of all of VDRPT grant recipients. Ms. Heard and Ms. Hollis were introduced by Mr. Levine and he gave an overview of their work on this Plan.

Ms. Heard stated the purpose of the Transit Development Plan (TDP); Ms. Hollis presented the requirements and content, the schedule and tasks underway, the next steps, and the system overview. It was stated that this document is important in VDRPT's funding decisions. Mr. Levine stated that VDRPT will not be bound to this Plan's suggestions for funding; the 2010 census is going to fall within this six year period of the document and it is important to think of this document as a living document. There will be an update to the TDP after six years. This corresponds with the State's six year capital plan.

Mr. Levine volunteered to provide PTAB members with a copy of the last TDP, as well as the State's standards for a TDP.

Mr. Levine suggested that all the planning representatives of the counties be contacted by the consultants.

Ms. Wills asked the consultants how they are going to get information from non-users since only the FRED riders are to be surveyed. The reply was that they are relying on PTAB. Mr. Levine asked Ms. Wills if they had responses on a survey done by FAMPO and she did reply that transportation was part of their survey.

Ms. Erkert is interested to see whether FRED is serving the people who need to get to work and have no other means of transportation. She also suggested surveying the language of FRED riders. She further suggested that The Free-Lance Star, Mary Washington Hospital and the University of Mary Washington be contacted for this study.

At this point there was a general discussion of the logistics of doing the survey. As well, there was general discussion about issues PTAB would like to see addressed, such as, frequency of the service, fares, etc.

Report of Director of Public Transit:

- Ms. Kimball notified the PTAB that the grant package had been sent to the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transit.
- Mr. Levine gave the passenger count for the past three years:
 - 2007 367,999
 - 2008 512,432
 - 2009 543,315
- Ms. Kimball reported to the Board about the delay in receiving the newly ordered buses, the problems causing this delay, liquidated damages, and working with the vendor for a solution. The buses were to be delivered in December but will now be delivered the first part of April. Thirty-one buses will be in the FRED fleet at that time.
- Cameras for GPS will begin to be installed this weekend; they will film within and on the outside of the buses. The buses will be tracked.

- FRED staff is working with the City's IT department and partnering with the Fredericksburg City Police Department to get base GIS systems in place; this will allow FRED to put all stops and routes on GIS.
- FRED staff has been given the go-ahead from the federal government to proceed with the purchase of the maintenance facility. An appraiser is working on the appraisal with intensity. Once the City has received the amount of the appraisal, negotiations can begin.
- HCA Hospital is now interested in becoming a Partner. This route is the most stretched route in Spotsylvania County so more planning is needed.
- Mr. Levine stated that changes were made to the Caroline County routes but now the Board of Supervisors and some citizens want changes, even though there was extensive advertising of the changes, including posting on the buses, and the changes having been approved by the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Levine further stated that FRED will abide by the decision that the Board will make on this matter.
- FRED received two requests from FAMPO:
 - Asked FRED to be the channel for \$100,000. This matter is still in discussion and they may have to go through PRTC.
 - Their second request is very complicated in that they are trying to get at \$400,000 grant to work.
- The University of Mary Washington intern is doing some surveys on the buses and on campus. There will be more information at the next PTAB meeting.
- Mr. Levine will have the fare analysis at the next PTAB meeting.

Committee Reports:

- (1) **Mission, Goals and Objectives** – report next meeting.
- (2) **Partnership/Marketing** – HCA is a possible Partner and a meeting will be scheduled.
- (3) **Services to the Underserved** – no report.
- (4) **Operations and Oversight** – no report.
- (5) **Safety and Security** – no report.

Other Business:

None

Announcements:

The next PTAB meeting will be held on April 7, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned.

Approved by the Public Transit Advisory Board:

Marilyn M. Graves

Date